FY 2007 NOAA BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

OFFICE OF OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (OAR) requests $348.7M in FY 2007, reflecting a net increase of $38.2M over the FY 2007 base level, which is a reduction of $30.9M from the FY06 Enacted level. This budget request supports the cutting-edge science delivered by NOAA's research programs.

FY 2007 Program Change Highlights

Global Ocean Observing System for Climate +$6.0M: The new funds will enable NOAA to continue building the global component of the Integrated Ocean Observing System, including floats, buoys, tide gauge stations and other ocean reference stations, per our international commitment. Advancing ocean systems toward global coverage will allow NOAA to better describe and understand the state of the climate system and help improve climate predictions.

Regional Decision Support Partnerships: Coping with Drought +$4.0M: Funds will be used for research to aid decision makers faced with drought and water resources management issues. The program contributes to the National Integrated Drought Information System.

Explaining Climate Conditions +$2.0M: Funds will be used to establish the capacity to produce consistent and continually updated climate analysis data, deliver regular and systematic explanations of the state of the climate system, and advance understanding and predictions of climate extremes for proactive decision-making.

Regional Climate Services +$0.5M: Funds will be used to sustain national and regional climate services. NOAA will provide managers with the ability to assess climate variability and make informed decisions to mitigate impacts of extreme climate events, such as drought and El Niño.

Global Climate Observing System +$2.7M: Funds will retrofit GCOS Upper-Air Network sites in developing nations; provide testing equipment (e.g. radiosondes and balloons); install new reference GCOS Surface Network sites in developing nations and unique climate regimes; and support the Pacific Islands Regional GCOS Program and link to other programs. These activities will allow NOAA to accurately document the state of the climate system on a global basis and provide necessary inputs to enable more reliable climate predictions and projections.

Climate Reference Network +$1.1M: Funds will be used to complete the installation and commissioning of the remainder of the Climate Reference Network as well as provide life cycle operations and maintenance. The network provides baseline, high-quality observations of surface air temperature and precipitation in order to detect long-term changes in climate through a consistent climate record.

For more information, contact the NOAA Budget Office: (202) 482-4600 – or – AskNOAABudget@noaa.gov

Tornado/Severe Storm Research (Phased-Array Radar) +$2.0M: Funds will be used to build upon NOAA's progress in developing new technologies, principally the Phased-Array Radar, for forecasting and detecting tornadoes and other forms of severe weather and disseminating this information to emergency managers, the media, and the general public for appropriate action.

NOAA's Undersea Research Program (NURP) +$5.0M: Funds will be used primarily to restructure the east coast program to better serve the undersea research needs of the Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean. NURP provides scientists with the high-tech tools and expertise they need to investigate the undersea environment.

Ocean Exploration +$1.5M: Funds will be used to restore key investments in the Nation's only program dedicated to systematically exploring the world's oceans. Through these investments, NOAA will continue to develop the capabilities necessary to lead America's ocean discovery efforts.

Aquatic Invasive Species Program +$1.5M: Funds will be used to enhance NOAA's capability to fight the spread of invasive species by preventing invasions before they occur. Prevention is the most powerful and cost-effective approach to invasive species control.

High Performance Computing and Communication +$6.5M: Funds will restore and improve NOAA's ability to use advanced computing power to forecast the Nation's weather and climate, to model ecosystems and the ocean, and to disseminate environmental information.

Research Supercomputing/CCRI +$1.0M: Funds will be used to acquire additional supercomputing resources to enable the systematic generation of model products needed to document and assess the regional and global impacts of long-term climate variability and change.

OAR FY 2007 Budget Request ($ in Millions)

	FY06 Enacted	FY07 Base	Program Change	FY07 Request
ORF	$ 370.2	$ 301.0	$ 37.2	$ 338.3
PAC	$ 9.4	$ 9.4	$ 1.0	$ 10.4
TOTAL	$379.6	$310.4	$ 38.2	$ 348.7